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matical or historical, the leading one being a criticism of the Ritschl school of theology by the younger Professor Cremer. But the whole volume is of exceptional interest to the close student of God's word.

G. H. S.

The Shorter Bible, chronologically arranged, being the Holy Bible abridged and with its readings synchronized for popular reading. By Lucy Rider Meyer, A.M., M.D., Editor. With an Introduction by Bishop John H. Vincent. New York: Hunt & Eaton, 1895. Pp. 963. Price, \$2.50.

We should welcome the Bible in any form, provided such form does not do violence to the general meaning of the text. The editor of this shorter Bible has used scissors and paste in a commendable manner, and has given as the result a book for popular reading. She attempts to set in parallel columns the history of the kingdom of Judah and of Israel. But the method will scarcely clarify the matter for the popular reader. The arrangement of the Psalms in chronological order presents some curious conjunctions. For the presentation of the best critical results of the day the book has no value whatever. But for popular use it may serve a good purpose in interesting some readers in the Bible as history and literature, and may lead to the use of the Bible as a whole, and further to the best works on its arrangement and interpretation. It can do little harm.

## LITERARY NOTES.

THE MODERN READER'S BIBLE is "a series of works from the sacred Scriptures presented in modern literary form." Professor Moulton has captured or produced a good idea. The Bible is not interesting to large classes of people, even as literature. It is so full of archaisms in language, form, and thought that it is often quietly ignored. In fifteen beautiful little volumes, the arranger expects to present in literary form on the basis of the Revised Version all of the books of the Old Testament, together with some apocryphal literature. Several have already appeared, which serve to show what the set will be when finished. Some of the arrangements add greatly to the clearness of the text, while others, at least to those familiar with the Bible, rather confuse the thoughts. Biblical Idyls presents in a very neat, helpful form the "Song of Solomon," "The Book of Ruth" and the apocryphal "Book of Tobit." The reason for certain forms and readings, etc., are stated in notes. The Book of Job is one of the choicest of the series. An elaborate introduction prepares the reader for a full appreciation of the following pages. The verse structure, though sometimes apparently stiff, still adds beauty and grace to page as well as to understanding of the theme and discussion. Deuteronomy gains much by its partition into speeches with

preface and conclusion. Its lifelike advance, its majestic theme are dignified and made impressive by the discriminating work of Professor Moulton. The latest volume of the series that has appeared is that on *Genesis*.

Mr. Lee S. Smith's *Through Egypt to Palestine*, published by the Fleming H. Revell Company, is a readable account of an American traveler's journey over the beaten tourist's track through Bible lands, and is interestingly illustrated. The amount of valuable information in it for a fairly intelligent Bible student is small, but it is comparatively free from errors, and will fill a Sabbath afternoon pleasantly and not altogether unprofitably.

It is significant of the interest in the study of the Bible that prevails in Great Britain, and especially in Scotland, that there is a demand for such works as Messrs. T. & T. Clark, of Edinburgh, are constantly issuing in their Handbooks for Bible Classes and Bible Class Primers. These books are, we are informed, issued in large editions and used as text-books in Bible classes. One of the most recent issues in the Primer series is a little book on Christian Character; A Study in New Testament Morality. It is excellently done, and we wish it could be read by thousands of young people in America. It is sold by Charles Scribner's Sons for 25 cents.

To the recent issues in the series of Handbooks for Bible Classes belongs an excellent work by Rev. J. Feather entitled, The Last of the Prophets: A Study of the Life, Teaching, and Character of John the Baptist. Mr. Feather writes in the historic spirit, with sympathy for his subject and appreciation of the problems involved. These latter are discussed with fairness, good judgment, and in most cases with reasonable fulness. Like all of the series this volume is imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Free Church of Scotland, her ancestry, her claims and her conflicts. By the Rev. C. G. McCrie, D.D. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. (Bible Class Primers), pp. 117. \$0.25.

From Hollow to Hilltop. By Mary Lowe Dickinson, D.D. (Philadelphia: Am. Bap. Pub. Society.)

On the Art of Living Together. By R. F. Horton, D.D. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., pp. 105.) \$0.50.

David, Shepherd, Psalmist, King. By F. B. Meyer, B.A. (Chicago: F. H. Revell Co., 1895, pp. 213.) \$1.00.

Jesus and Jonah. By J. W. McGarvey. (Cincinnati, O.: Standard Publishing Co., 1896, pp. 72.)

Archbishop Wake and the Project of Union (1717-1720) between the Gallican and Anglican Churches. By J. N. Lupton, B.D. (London: Geo. Bell & Sons; New York: Macmillan, 1896, pp. 142.) \$0.75.

First Words from God. By F. W. Upham. (New York: Hunt & Eaton, 1894.)

The Bible as Literature. By W. F. Moulton, M.A., Meadville, Pa., 1895.

Star of our Lord. By F. W. Upham. (New York: Phillips & Hunt, pp. 370.)